

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/082,136

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 10-31 are all of the pending claims. New dependent claim 31 has been added. Dependent claims 3-7 and 10-25 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claim 1 is the only independent claim that has been examined.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, and 26-30 presently stand rejected. Specifically, claims 1, 2, 8, 9 and 27-30 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schoettle U.S. Patent No. 4,629,144) in view of Gelardi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,986,491). Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schoettle and Gelardi et al. in further view of Ooishi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,408,733).

As an initial matter, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of dependent claims 8 and 9 and has been amended to recite that a reel presser spring has a U-shaped insertion anchor portion being said proximal end, said U-shaped insertion anchor portion comprising a support piece portion being supported by said inner surface of said upper half facing said overhanging portion of said presser spring anchor portion and an open piece portion being parallel to said support piece portion and brought into elastic contact with said overhanging portion; and an elastic tongue portion being said proximal end, said elastic tongue portion being extending from said support piece portion of said U-shaped insertion anchor portion and inclined to a side of said open piece portion. This amendment is fully supported in the original specification at least by the non-limiting embodiment shown at Figs. 10 and 11, as well as the description thereof.

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With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection at least because there is no combination of Schoettle and Gelardi that would reasonably teach or suggest all of the claim's recitations. For example, there is no combination of Schoettle and Gelardi that would reasonably teach or suggest the claim I cartridge having a presser spring portion and a reel presser spring having a U-shaped insertion anchor portion being said proximal end, said U-shaped insertion anchor portion comprising a support piece portion being supported by said inner surface of said upper half facing said overhanging portion of said presser spring anchor portion and an open piece portion being parallel to said support piece portion and brought into elastic contact with said overhanging portion; and an elastic tongue portion being said proximal end, said elastic tongue portion extending from said support piece portion of said U-shaped insertion anchor portion and inclined to a side of said open piece portion.

Gelardi discloses, at Fig. 2, implanted portions 28, 29 and overhanging portions 34-36 overhanging from the implanted portion over the inner surface. However, Gelardi does not disclose a reel presser spring that could reasonably be considered as corresponding to the recited reel presser spring having an anchor portion, open piece portion, and elastic tongue portion. Instead, Gelardi merely discloses a spring 14 that does not include these structures.

Moreover, although Scotettle at Fig. 3 discloses a spring 1 with a hook shaped end 2a' (anchor portion), the hook shaped end 2a' also cannot be considered as reasonably corresponding to the recited "reel presser spring" because the hook shaped end 2a' is not to be inserted in a space defined by an overhanging portion of a presser spring anchor portion. Instead, the hook

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shaped end 2a' is inserted into the end portion of the transparent member 7 of the window portion 5.

The fact that the recited reel presser spring includes an elastic tongue portion inclined with respect to the support portion and a piece portion being parallel to said support piece portion and brought into elastic contact with the overhanging portion of the presser spring anchor portion allows the reel presser spring to provide an elastic force when it is inserted into a space defined by the overhanging portion. In contrast, a hook shaped end 2a' (anchor portion) illustrated in Fig. 3 in Schoettle has to be inclined with respect to the opposite side to obtain elastic force.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is patentable in view of the combination of Schoettle and Gelardi. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 2, 8, 9, and 26-30 are patentable at least because of their dependency from claim 1.

New Claim

In addition, the applicant and we propose adding a new claim 31 reciting a convex portion and an anchor portion. This amendment is supported in the original specification at least by the exemplary embodiment illustrated in Fig. 11. Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 31 is patentable at least because of its dependency from claim 1.

Conclusion

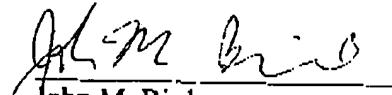
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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